

Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

Clearwater, FL

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Clearwater was selected to receive an assessment grant. Clearwater is located in the most densely populated county in Florida. Urban sprawl has left a 25-year legacy of environmental and economic decline in the downtown area and surrounding neighborhoods. The Clearwater Brownfields Area (CBA) in downtown Clearwater is impacted by abandoned land tainted by former gas station, dry cleaning, and printing operations. The CBA contains an estimated 188 sites with a variety of environmental contamination. Residents of the area have experienced declining property values resulting from blight and job loss because businesses are fleeing to the suburbs. Clearwater has solicited community input on the CBA



Assessment Grant

\$200,000 for hazardous substances \$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Clearwater for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to perform assessments for both hazardous substances and petroleum contamination at two sites. The city also will use funding to assess hazardous substances at another property and to perform assessments for lead and asbestos at ten sites to be determined through community input. Petroleum funding will be used to assess petroleum contamination at a substation and two additional sites to be determined through community input.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields/

EPA Region 4 Brownfields Team 404-562-8661

http://www.epa.gov/region4/waste/bf/index.htm

Grant Recipient: City of Clearwater, FL 727-562-4054

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the City of Clearwater also has received brownfields funding for assessment and revolving loan fund grants.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

revitalization strategy from residents, business owners, local financial institutions, and local nonprofit organizations. The city actively engages all stakeholders in its development of reuse plans.